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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Fumio NOMURA et al

Group Art Unit: 1645

Serial No.: 10/538,916

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: June 13, 2005

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8854

For: MARKER PROTEINS FOR DIAGNOSING LIVER DISEASE AND METHOD
FOR DIAGNOSING LIVER DISEASE USING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 17, 2006

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

Documents AE and AJ-AK were cited in a European Search Report dated July 21, 2006. A copy of the search report is also enclosed.

No fee is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution



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of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO1449, Search Report, 3 References



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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PTO-1449 | Atty. Docket No. 050337 | Serial No. 10/538,916 |
| | Applicant(s): Fumio NOMURA, et al. | Confirmation No. 8854 |
| | Filing Date: June 13, 2005 | Group Art Unit: 1645 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial | Document No. | Name | Date | Class | Sub-class | Filing Date (If appropriate) |
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| _____ | AA | | | | | |
| _____ | AB | | | | | |
| _____ | AC | | | | | |
| _____ | AD | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | Document No. | Date | Country | Translation (Yes or No) |
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| _____ | AE 1582873 | 10/5/05 | EP | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS

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| _____ | AJ | Bedossa et al; "Apolipoprotein AI is a Serum and Tissue Marker of Liver Fibrosis in Alcoholic Patients," XP009068725; Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research; Vol. 13, No. 6 (November/December 1989); pp 829-33. |
| _____ | AK | Pilette et al; "Histopathological evaluation of liver fibrosis: quantitative image analysis vs semi-quantitative scores, Comparison with Serum markers," XP002388410; J. Hepatology, 28 (1998) pp 439-446. |
| _____ | AL | European Search Report dated July 21, 2006 |

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| Examiner | Date Considered |
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